September 18, 1998

Dockets Management Branch
Food and Drug Administration
Department of Health and Human Services
12420 Parklawn Dr., Room 1-23
Rockville, MD 20857 7 1 1 9 99 MAR 31 P1:57

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to urge you to eliminate the practice of force molting layer hens. This cruel practice of withholding food for up to 2 weeks is barbaric. Aside from that, research has shown that forced molting significantly increases the frequency and severity of Salmonella enteritidis among hens.

I support the petition filed by the United Poultry Concerns and the Association of Veterinarians for Animal Rights (docket number 98P-0203/CP Respectfully,

Meredith Erickson 131 N. Erwin St.

Cartersville, GA 30120

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